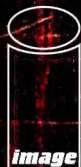


**"DARK HORROR" PART 3**



**278**

**DIGITAL  
EDITION**

# SPAWN®

**DARRAGH SAVAGE  
JASON SHAWN ALEXANDER**





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SPAWN CREATED BY  
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#### PREVIOUSLY IN SPAWN

Spawn follows and manipulates a large flock of black crows and captures one of them. In its talons is the gold ring dropped by a young lady being taken to the pet shop (see *Spawn* issue 276). Still unsure of the ring's importance, Spawn continues his quest to find the truth. He follows his leads to the gang of men in charge. Spawn uses his chains to eliminate some of them. But he is unable to contain the leader, who puts him under a spell and chokes Spawn with his own cape. Meanwhile Cyan is still seeing the ghostly girl and doesn't understand why. She asks her friend, 'what dead people want' and her friend replies that it could be the deceased hasn't found the thing that puts them at rest. Cyan begins to ponder if that is the reason this ghost needs HER.

IT'S LIKE TRYING TO DO SOME-  
THING IN A MIRROR, YOU  
MOVING YOUR HAND, BUT IT  
GOES THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION  
YOUR MIND WANTS IT TO.

THAT'S WHAT IT WAS LIKE.  
HIS POWER MADE ME  
THINK I WAS DOING ONE  
THING, WHEN I WAS  
DOING THE OPPOSITE.



SO INSTEAD OF  
TRYING TO TELL MY  
COSTUME WHAT TO  
DO, I STOPPED.

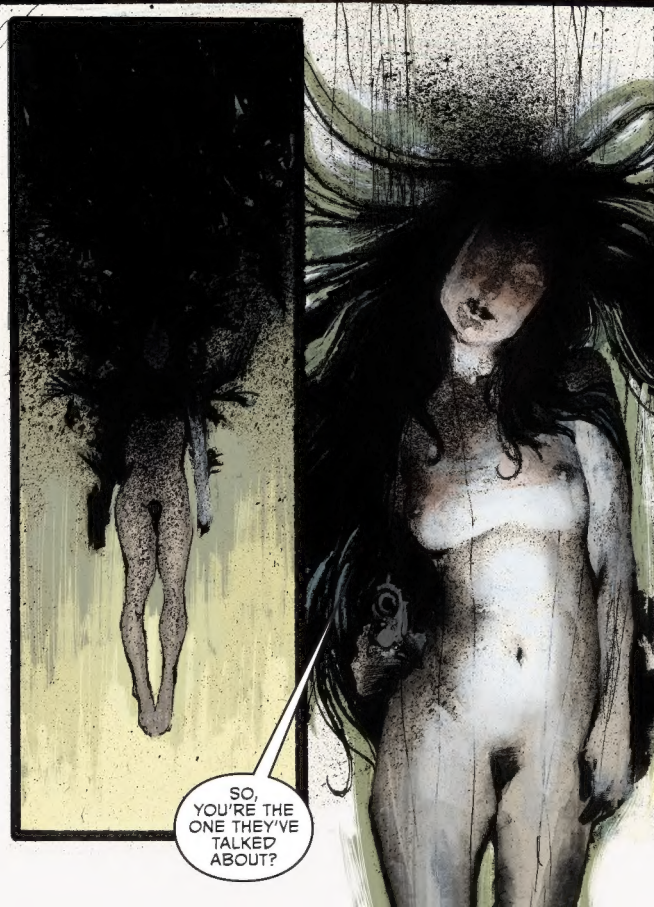
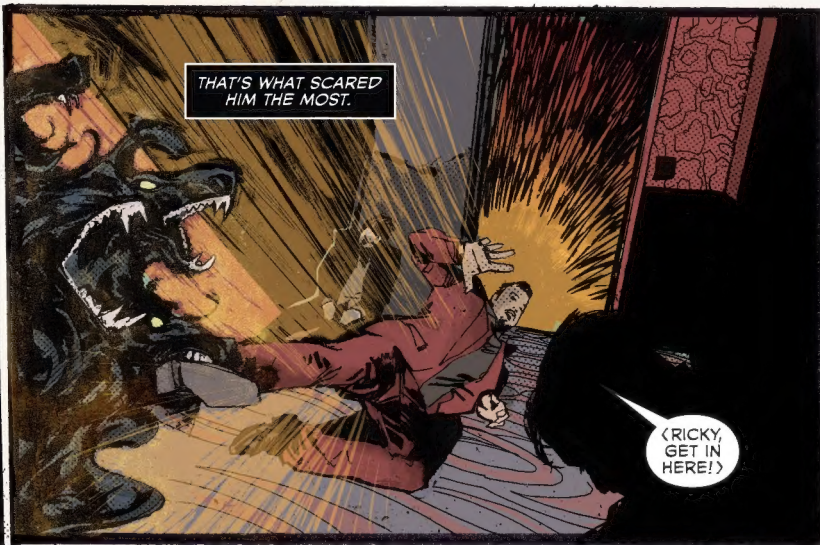


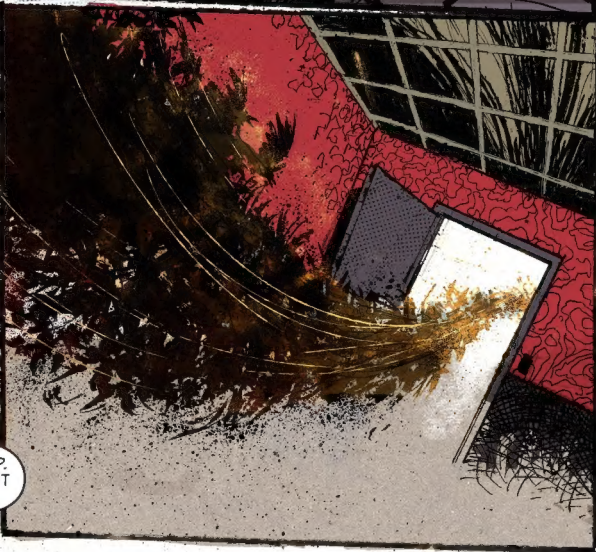
AND LET IT  
DO ITS THING.

A man in a red suit is running away from a symbiote creature. The man has a shocked expression, with his mouth open and eyes wide. He is wearing a red jacket and pants. The symbiote creature is dark and has sharp teeth. The background is a dark, industrial setting with some light reflecting off surfaces.

(GOD  
**DAMN**  
IT!)

WHATEVER HE WAS DOING  
TO MY MIND SEEMS A  
LITTLE LESS EFFECTIVE ON  
THE SYMBIOTE.







YES.

BUT,  
PLEASE... I  
JUST WANT TO  
LEAVE HERE  
NOW.

I WANT  
TO GO  
HOME.



I NEED  
TO FEED MY  
DOG.



(SAYA,  
THAT **THING!**  
DON'T--YOU  
CAN'T LEAVE  
ME HERE  
WITH IT.)



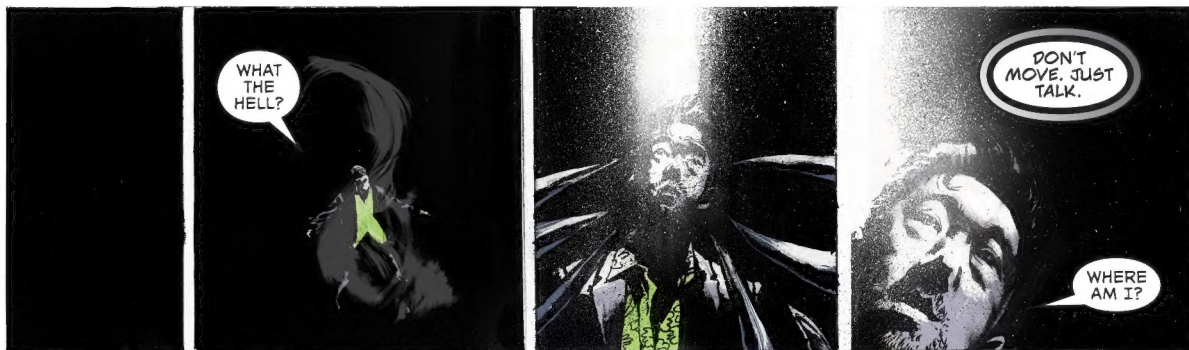
(YES I  
CAN.)

LISTEN MAN,  
WHATEVER SHIT  
IS HAPPENING  
BETWEEN YOU AND  
THOSE OTHER GUYS,  
I'M NOT PART  
OF IT...

GOOD.



THEN YOU  
WON'T MIND  
TELLING ME  
ALL ABOUT  
THEM.



WHAT  
THE  
HELL?

DON'T  
MOVE. JUST  
TALK.

WHERE  
AM I?



IN NO  
POSITION TO  
NEGOTIATE.

SHIT.

JO?



OK. OK. SO.  
IT'S LIKE THIS...  
THOSE BASTARDS START  
MAKING NOISE A FEW  
MONTHS BACK. SHIZUMU  
WAS JUST SOME MINOR  
LEAGUE PIMP THEN,  
SAME WITH THE REST  
OF HIS CREW.

NOBODIES.

NEXT  
THING YOU  
KNOW THEY'RE  
TAKING HEADS  
LEFT AND  
RIGHT.

THERE WERE  
RUMORS ABOUT  
THE CRAZY STUFF THEY  
COULD DO. DIDN'T  
REALLY BELIEVE IT UNTIL  
THAT SONOVABITCH  
SHOWED UP IN MY  
OFFICE.

WHO DO  
THEY WORK  
FOR?

THE PRICK  
YOU WANT IS CALLED  
OKUMATSU, PEOPLE CALL  
HIM MR. O. SHIZUMU AND  
THE REST REPORT TO  
HIM, I WAS GONNA GO  
AFTER HIM.



WHERE?

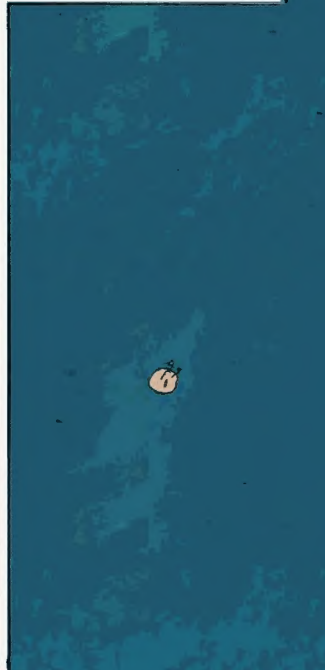


SHINAGAWA.  
COMPANY  
CALLED SHINSEI  
MEDIA. TONS OF  
SECURITY.

THAT  
EVERYTHING?

YES.

I JUST  
WANT OUT  
OF HERE... TO  
HAWAII. I JUST  
WANT TO GO  
HOME TO  
HAWAII.





I LIKE YOUR NEW LOOK. YOU LOOK GOOD, MORE GROWN UP.

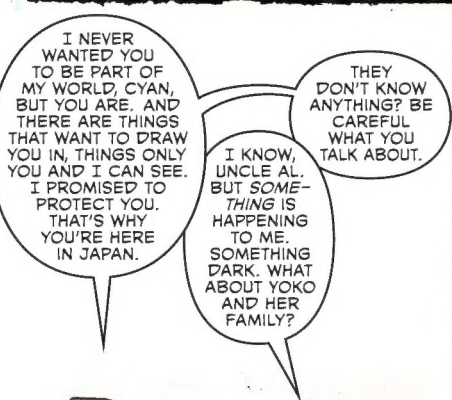
THANKS, BUT THAT'S NOT WHY YOU ASKED ME HERE IS IT?



I SAW WHAT YOU'VE BEEN SEEING. I CAN'T ENTIRELY EXPLAIN YET, BUT IT WILL BE TAKEN CARE OF.



THAT'S IT? IT WILL BE TAKEN CARE OF. COME ON. YOU CAN'T JUST TELL ME NOT TO WORRY. SHE CAME LOOKING FOR ME.



I NEVER WANTED YOU TO BE PART OF MY WORLD, CYAN, BUT YOU ARE. AND THERE ARE THINGS THAT WANT TO DRAW YOU IN, THINGS ONLY YOU AND I CAN SEE. I PROMISED TO PROTECT YOU. THAT'S WHY YOU'RE HERE IN JAPAN.

THEY DON'T KNOW ANYTHING? BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU TALK ABOUT.

I KNOW, UNCLE AL. BUT *SOME-THING* IS HAPPENING TO ME. SOMETHING DARK. WHAT ABOUT YOKO AND HER FAMILY?



UM, WHAT DO YOU THINK I'VE BEEN DOING? I'M NOT STUPID.







CRAP. STRAIGHT TO VOICEMAIL.





MINUTES LATER

YOKO JUST  
WANTED YOU BACK  
FOR YUJIRO'S PARTY,  
SHE THOUGHT  
YOU'D FORGOTTEN  
ABOUT IT.

I'M SO  
SORRY.

I DON'T  
REALLY  
KNOW  
WHAT JUST  
HAPPENED.  
I'LL BUY YOU  
A NEW  
DOOR.

NONSENSE.  
BESIDES, WE  
TOLD YUJIRO THAT  
YOU'RE A LOT  
STRONGER THAN YOU  
LOOK. I THINK  
YOU'RE HIS NEW  
FAVORITE PERSON  
NOW.

YOU MEAN  
I'M NOT IN  
TROUBLE?

CYAN, I UNDERSTAND  
WHAT YOU'RE GOING THROUGH.  
BELIEVE ME, IT'S WHY SIMMONS--  
YOUR UNCLE AL--THOUGHT  
THIS WOULD BE A SAFE PLACE  
FOR YOU.

BUT I DO  
HAVE A FEW  
QUESTIONS  
FOR YOU.

OK.

BUT FIRST,  
LET'S HAVE  
SOME CAKE. NO  
SENSE HAVING  
THAT GO TO  
WASTE.

SO, HOW  
DID YOU DO  
THAT? AND  
WHERE IS  
YOUR UNCLE  
AL?

*Cyan looks  
a little after  
a short silence  
before Al.*



**SHUOKK**

IT WOULD SEEM I'M IN THE  
RIGHT PLACE IF IT'S ANY  
INDICATION THE WELCOMING  
I'M GETTING.



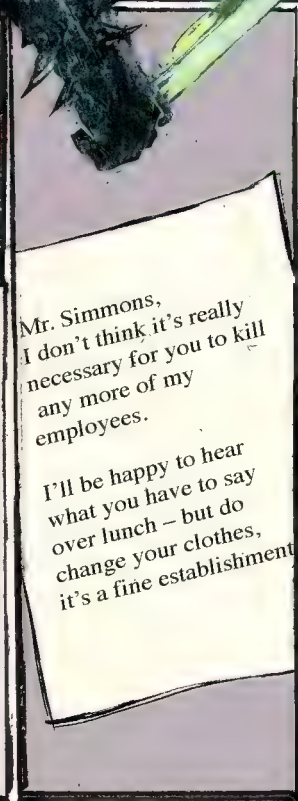
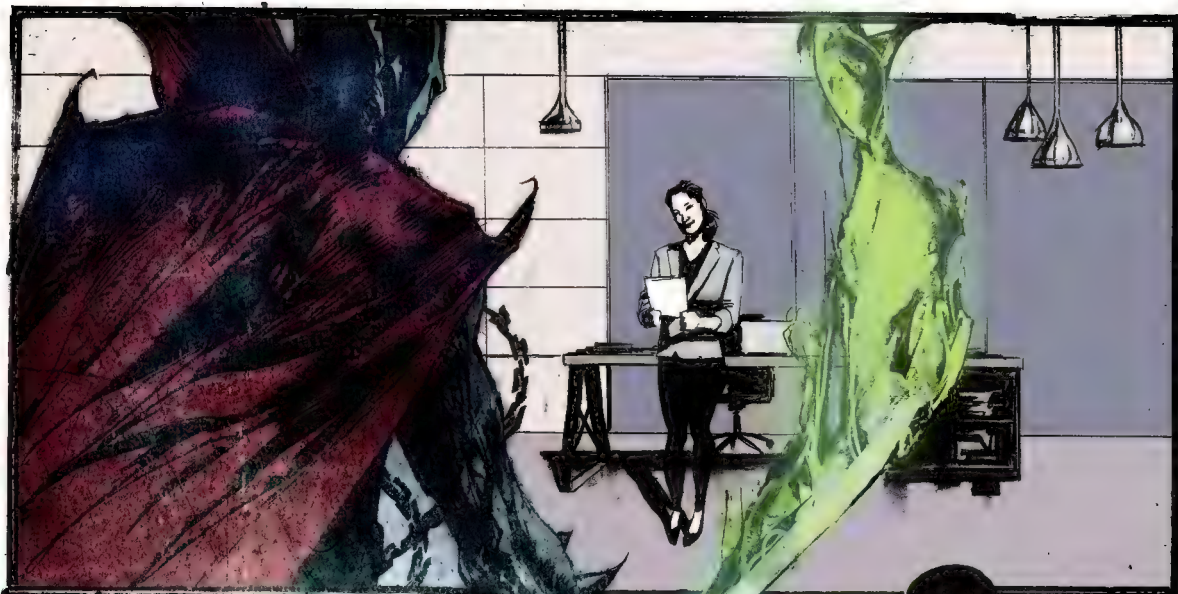
**SLITT**

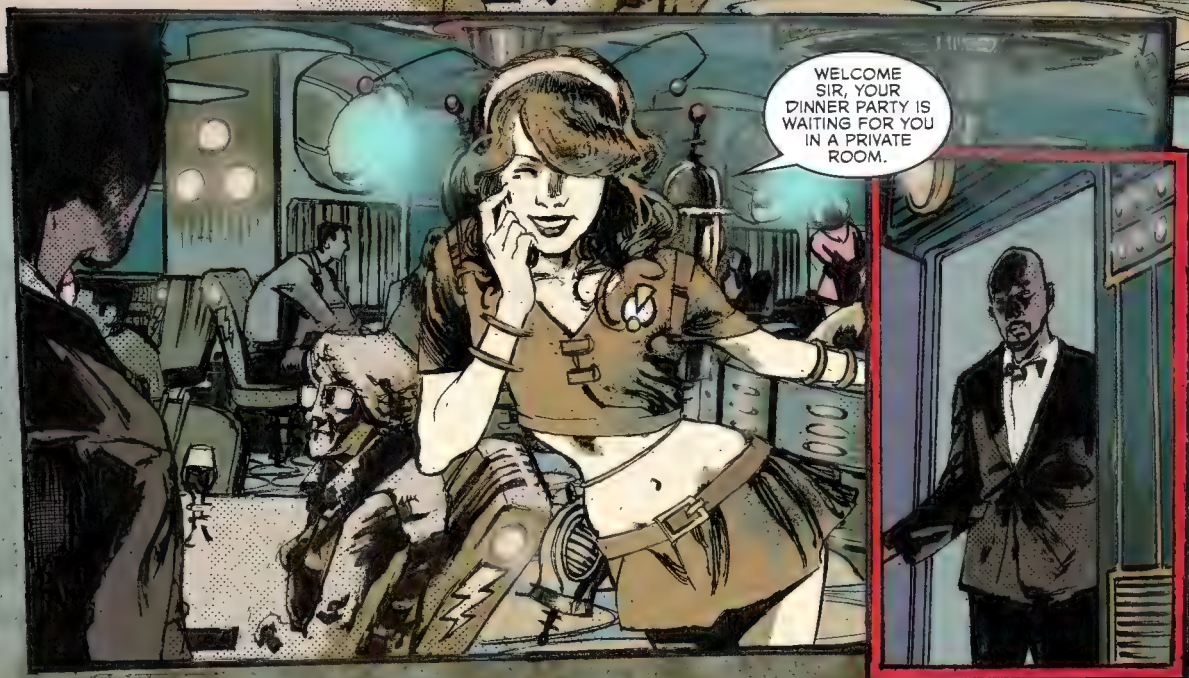


**KRAK**



**BAM**





WHAT ARE WE TALKING ABOUT?

ABOUT WHY YOU'RE HERE.

IT'S SIMPLE. I WANT YOU TO DESTROY THE DEMONS, THEN HIDE YOURSELF DEEP ENOUGH SO MAYBE-- WE WON'T HAVE TO HAVE THIS TALK AGAIN.

FIGURED YOU'D BE LIKE THIS, ALSO FIGURE YOU DON'T WANT TO MAKE A MESS OUT OF A BUNCH OF NICE PEOPLE.

THIS ONE WEARS HIS FLESH WELL, BUT I ALWAYS GET THE SENSE OF SOMETHING ROTTEN WHENEVER I GET CLOSE TO AN ANGEL.

WHO ARE YOU?

NAME'S MR. O.

WE'VE NEVER BEEN INTRODUCED, BUT YOU'RE A BIT OF A CELEBRITY WHERE WE COME FROM.

AND WHEN I HEAR TALK ABOUT CAPES AND CHAINS ALONG WITH CHOKINGS AND STABBINGS AND HANGING BODIES--I SAY TO MYSELF; WHO ELSE COULD IT BE?

I'M SURE YOU DON'T WANT THE COMPLICATION OF OUR PRESENCE HERE, BUT YOU-- OF ALL PEOPLE-- KNOW PERFECTLY WELL WHAT WE'RE DOING HERE.

BECAUSE WE HAVE NO CHOICE.

YOU TOOK THAT OPTION AWAY. SEE, WHILE YOU WERE SOLVING THE SPIRITUAL PROBLEMS OF ALL HUMANITY, IT MAY HAVE ESCAPED YOUR NOTICE BUT YOU CREATED A LITTLE PROBLEM BACK IN THE TEMPORAL SPHERE!

AN IMMIGRATION PROBLEM. WE **CAN'T** GO HOME! YOU UNDERSTAND THAT? WE'RE STUCK HERE ON EARTH ALONG WITH HELL'S LEFTOVERS.

YOU MADE SURE OF THAT WHEN YOU LOCKED THE '**DEAD ZONE**.' SO, WE'RE TRYING TO PUT OUR TALENTS TO USE, DO A LITTLE **BUSINESS**, BE PRODUCTIVE. 'A MAN MUST HAVE HIS WORK' IS WHAT A FRIEND OF MINE USED TO SAY.

IF YOU CAN'T GO HOME...

YOU CHECK THE MORAL SCORECARD ON THE PEOPLE WE'VE ACED SO FAR. I THINK WE'RE DOING OKAY. PLUS WE'RE **JOB CREATORS** TOO. YOU MET RICKY AND SHIZUMU EARLIER-- BRIGHT KIDS!

THEN YOU CAN DIE. AND YOU WILL.

SO, WHY WASTE YOUR TIME SCREWING UP WHAT WE'VE ALREADY GOT GOING?

ALL OF YOU WILL. ONE BY ONE.

IF IT'S NOT US, IT'LL BE SOME OTHER **ROGUE** GROUP DOING THE SAME THING. EXCEPT WITH MUCH LESS STYLE. BESIDES, A LITTLE BIRDIE TOLD ME YOU REALLY AIN'T ALL YOU USED TO BE.

GOOD EVENING, MR. SIMMONS.

AND I DON'T GIVE A SHIT IF YOU'RE FROM HEAVEN OR HELL.



HOW DO YOU FIGURE IT WENT, BOSS?

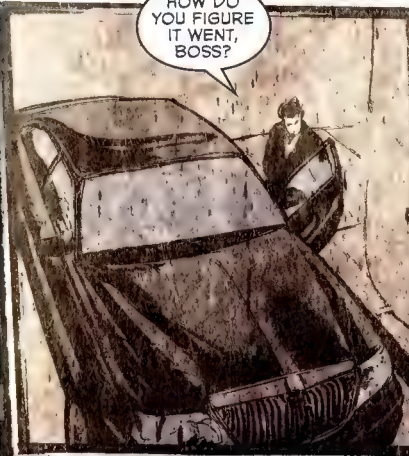


FIGURE THAT PRICK OF A HELLSPAWN AIN'T GOING TO MIND HIS OWN BUSINESS.

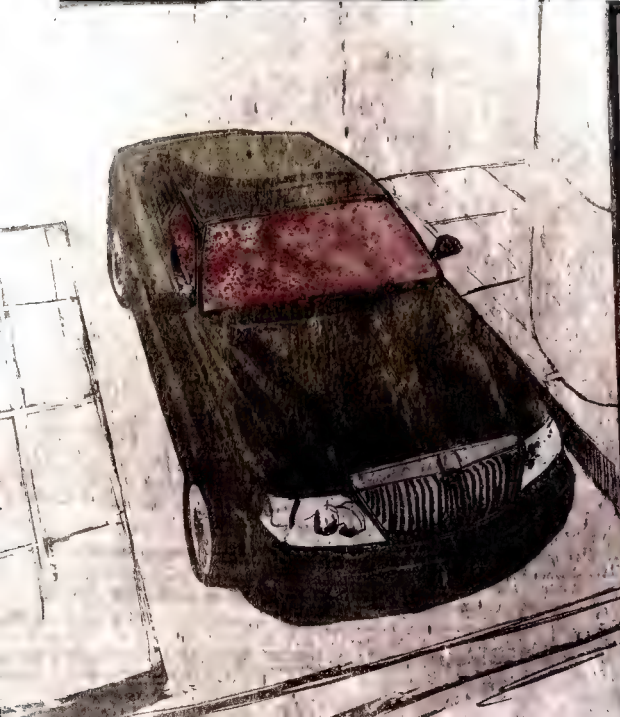
WHO CARES IF A FEW KIDS GO MISSING? NOT LIKE THERE AREN'T PLENTY OF THE LITTLE BASTARDS RUNNING AROUND.



WE ALL HAVE TO MAKE SACRIFICES, SYMBIOTE...



TIME TO MAKE YOURS.





WHAT DID  
YOU JUST...  
DO?

DAMMIT. NOT NOW.

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